Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: September 10, 2007

RCA
Agenda Item No. 7(A)

To: Honorable Javier Souto, Chairperson
and Members, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
Committee

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

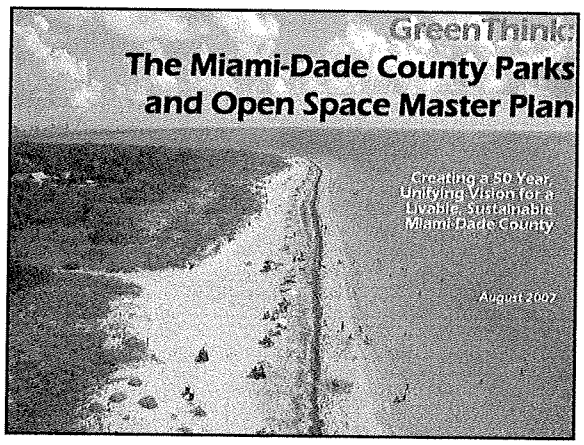
Subject: Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department
Open Space Master Plan Power-point Presentation

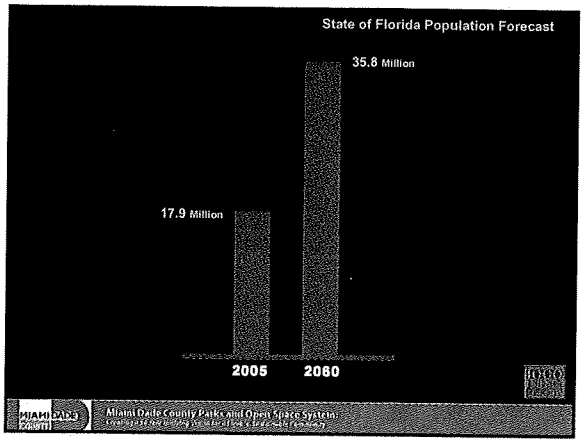
The Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department (Parks Department) is in the process of developing a new Open Space Master Plan. The Open Space Master Plan will be a policy framework and vision document that will guide the development and stewardship of parks and conservation open space into the 21st century. It envisions connecting parks and conservation open spaces with communities through parks, public spaces, natural and cultural areas, greenways and streets that will form the framework for a more livable and sustainable South Florida. The goal of the Open Space Master Plan is to produce a great public realm to improve overall quality of life for all our residents and visitors.

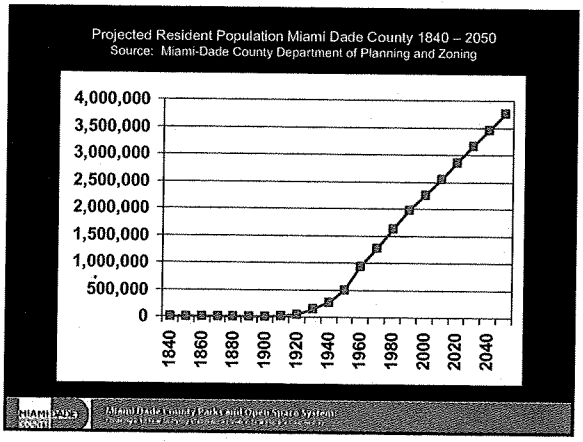
The last Open Space Master Plan was written in 1969 and has successfully guided the Parks Department in becoming one of the largest and most diverse park systems in the United States. As Miami-Dade County continues to grow, it is faced with new challenges, including new development patterns, declining open space, increased traffic congestion, lack of affordable housing, economic development and environmental decline. The Open Space Master Plan addresses these issues through the lens of a park system.

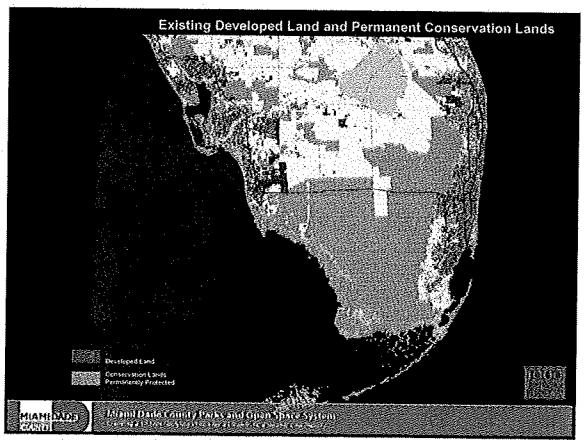
The power-point presentation will illustrate our key findings. We have come to understand that the creation of a Model Park System in Miami-Dade County cannot be considered as an isolated system, but one that is integrated into the overall fabric of the community and one that will create the kind of place and community where residents want to live; employers want to do business; and tourists want to visit.

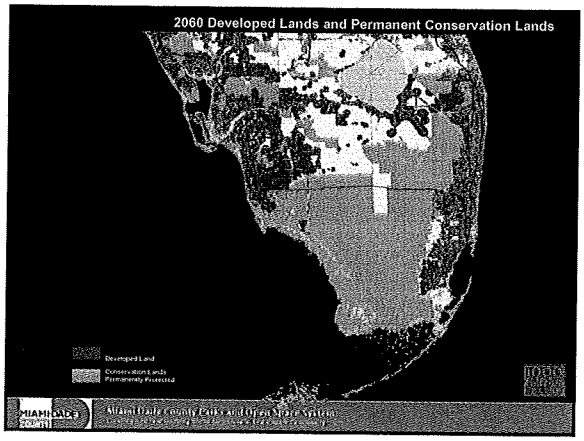
Alex Muñoz
Assistant County Manager


GreenThink:
The Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space Master Plan
Creating a 50 Year, Unifying Vision for a Livable, Sustainable Miami-Dade County
August 2007

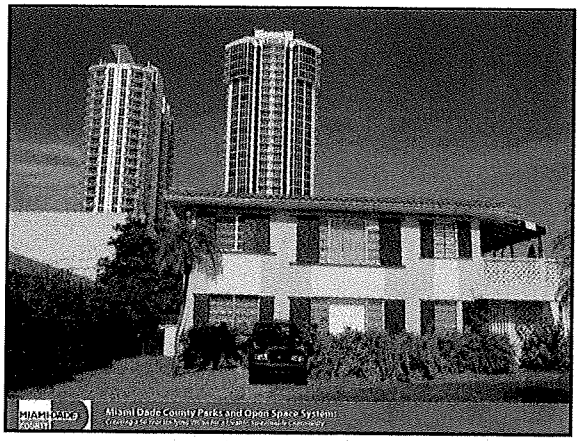

State of Florida Population Forecast
35.8 Million
17.9 Million
2005
2060
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

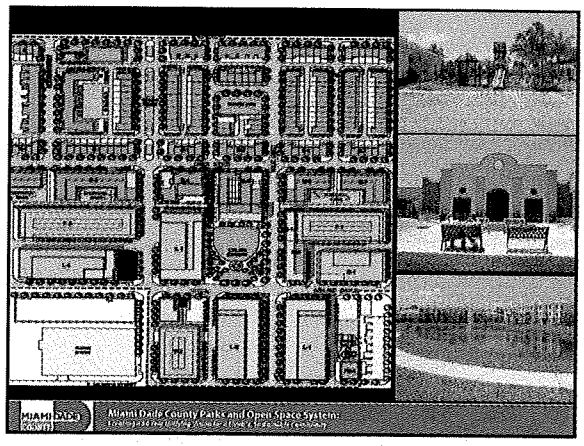

Projected Resident Population Miami Dade County 1840 – 2050
Source: Miami-Dade County Department of Planning and Zoning
4,000,000
3,500,000
3,000,000
2,500,000
2,000,000
1,500,000
1,000,000
500,000
0
1840
1860
1880
1900
1920
1940
1960
1980
2000
2020
2040
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


Existing Developed Land and Permanent Conservation Lands
Developed Land
Conservation Lands Permanently Protected
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


2060 Developed Lands and Permanent Conservation Lands
Developed Land
Conservation Lands Permanently Protected
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

27 NORTH
Hialeah
10
Int'l Airport
EAST
Miami Beach


Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System: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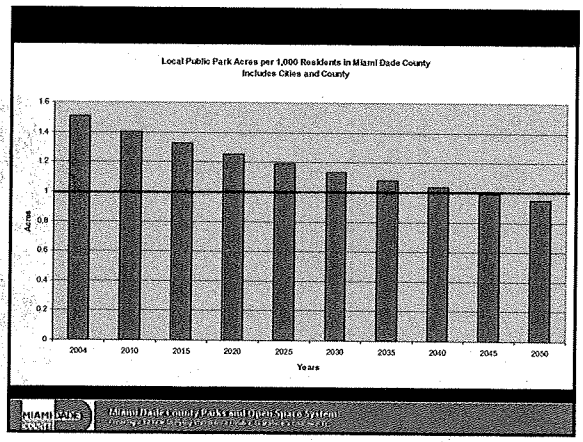
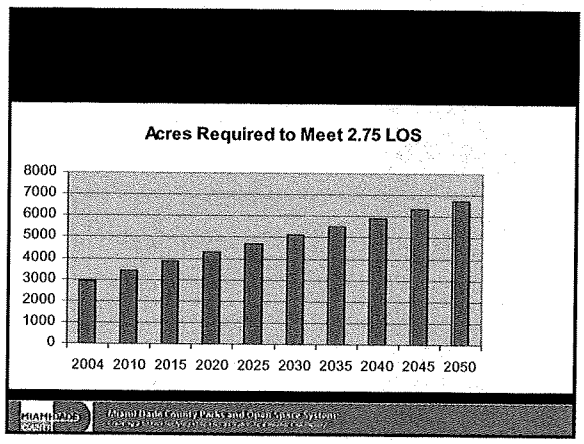
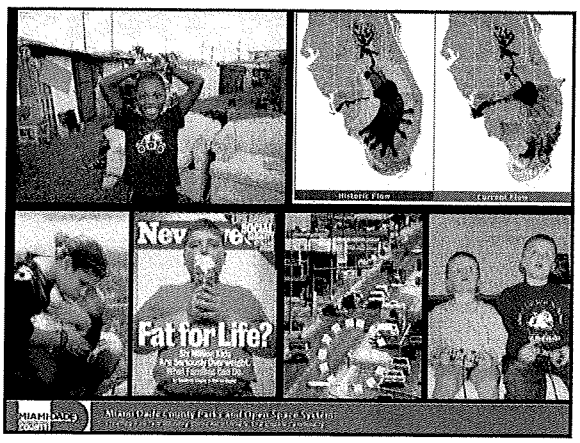
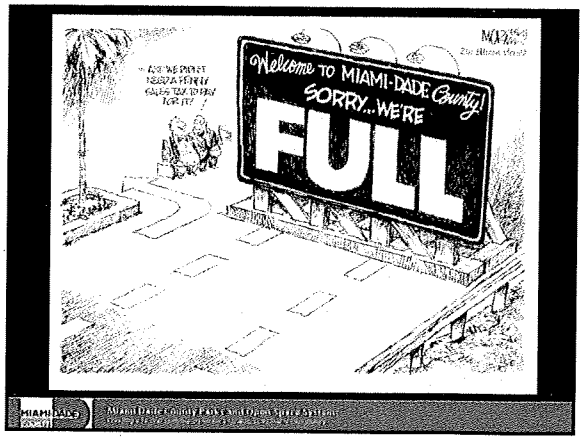

Local Public Park Acres per 1,000 Residents in Miami Dade County
Includes Cities and County
Acres
1.6
1.4
1.2
1
0.8
0.6
0.4
0.2
0
2004
2010
2015
2020
2025
2030
2035
2040
2045
2050
Years
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

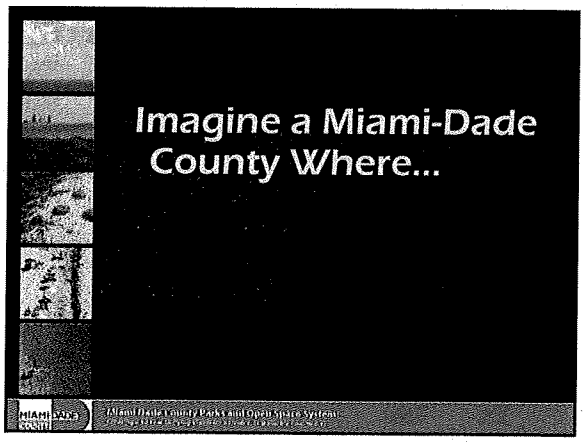

Acres Required to Meet 2.75 LOS
8000
7000
6000
5000
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
2004 2010 2015 2020 2025 2030 2035 2040 2045 2050
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System:


Historic Flow
Current Flow
Fat for Life?
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

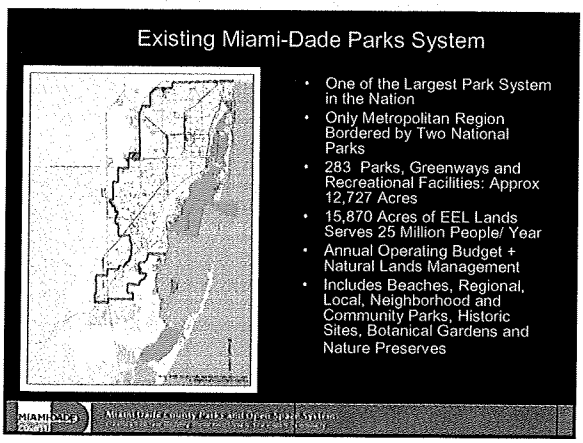

Welcome to MIAMI-DADE County!
SORRY...WE'RE
FULL
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

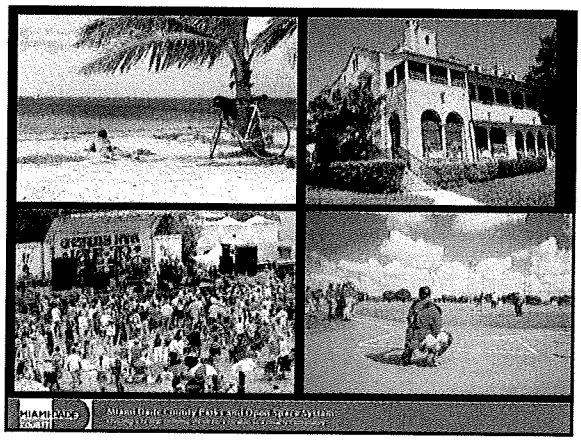
There is a Better Way
GreenThink:
Creating a 50 Year, Unifying Vision for a Livable, Sustainable Miami-Dade County
• Great Parks
• Great Public Spaces
• Great Natural and Cultural Areas
• Great Greenways and Blueways
• Great Streets
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

GreenThink Guiding Principles
Economic Sustainability:
• Enhancement of economic development, quality of life
• Responsible growth
Social Sustainability:
• Equitable distribution between communities
• Interconnected framework of transportation alternatives
• Accessible, diverse and balanced system of parks
Environmental Sustainability:
• Preservation, protection, enhancement of ecological, cultural resources
• Urban form shaped by parks, conservation open spaces
• No net loss of park, recreation and conservation open spaces
• Community stewardship


Imagine a Miami-Dade County Where...
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

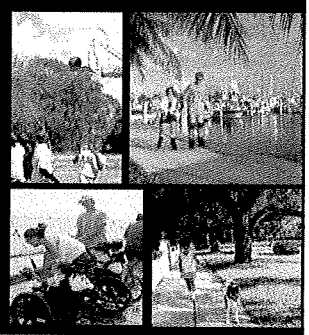
Great Parks Are Accessible to Everyone, Regardless of Age or Ability...
providing a diverse and balanced system of passive and active recreational opportunities.
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System:


Existing Miami-Dade Parks System
• One of the Largest Park System in the Nation
• Only Metropolitan Region Bordered by Two National Parks
• 283 Parks, Greenways and Recreational Facilities: Approx 12,727 Acres
• 15,870 Acres of EEL Lands Serves 25 Million People/ Year
• Annual Operating Budget + Natural Lands Management
• Includes Beaches, Regional, Local, Neighborhood and Community Parks, Historic Sites, Botanical Gardens and Nature Preserves


Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

Locally, every resident should be able to:

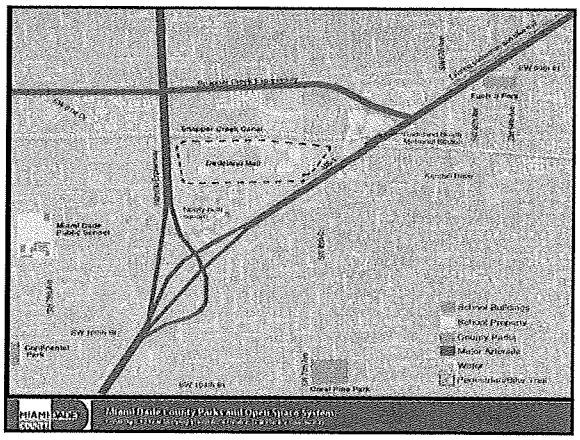
- Walk for recreation, exercise, transportation; walk the dog
- Ride a bike, skate
- Sit outside, read, contemplate
- Play on a playground
- Play a game of catch, frisbee
- Picnic, sun bathe
- Play pick-up sports
- Fish without a boat
- Attend a local arts festival, concert or other special event



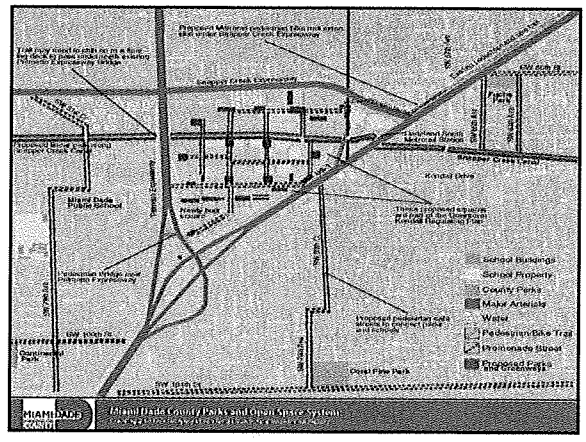
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY | Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

Downtown Kendall Neighborhood

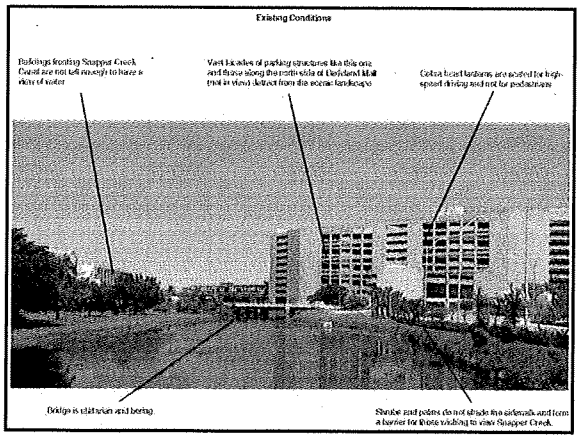
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY | Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

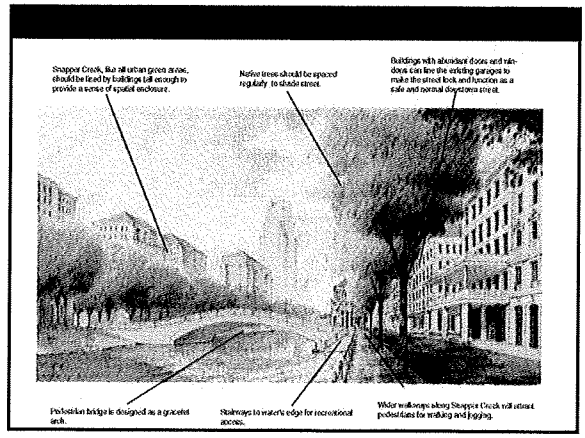


MIAMI-DADE COUNTY | Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System:



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY | Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System:





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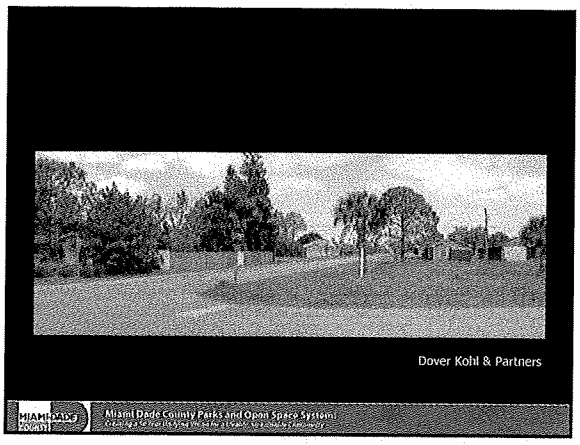
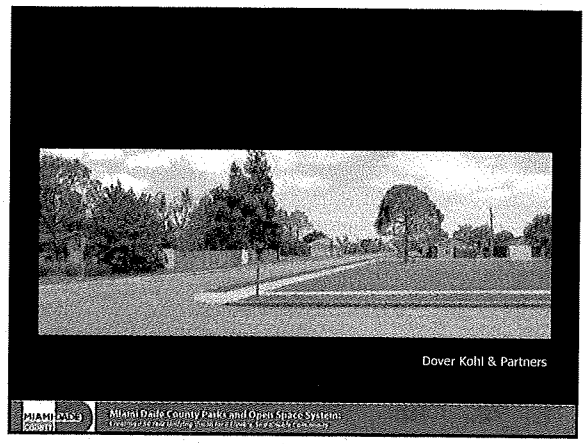
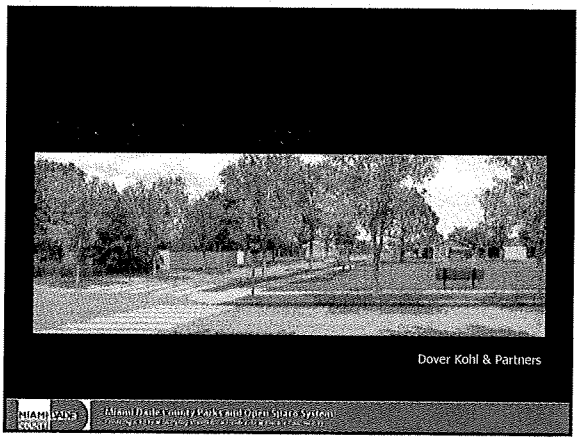
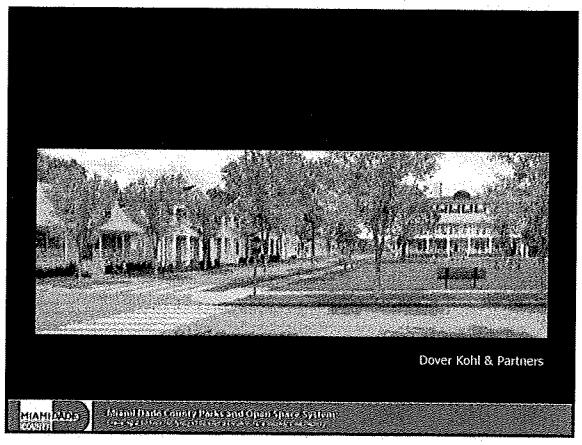




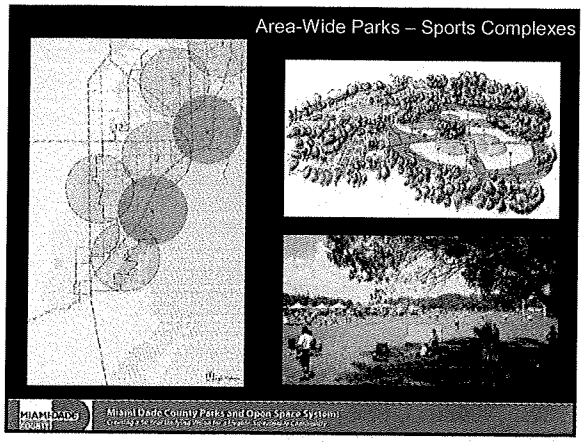




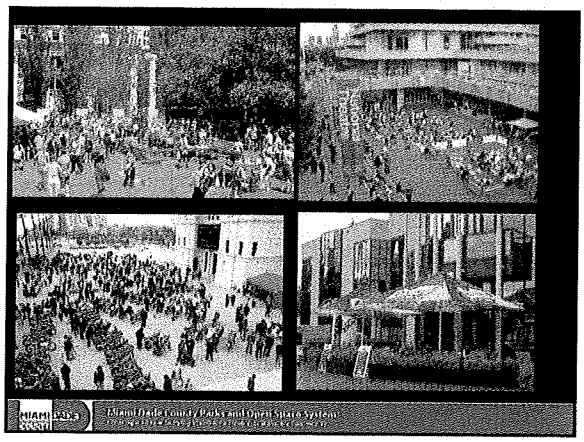
- New Affordable Housing Sites
- Stabilized Neighborhood
- Defined Edges of Park Space
- Additional "Eyes on the Park" for Security

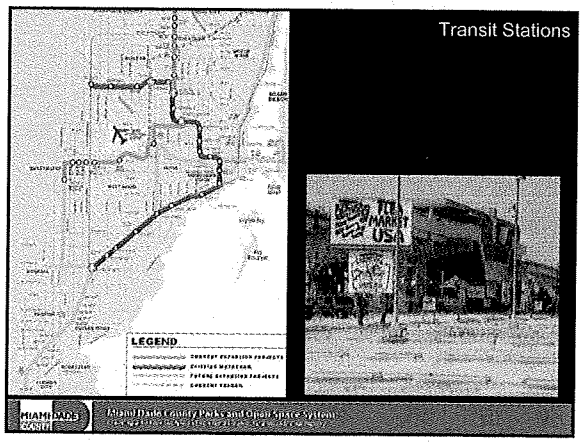
Every resident should also be able to:

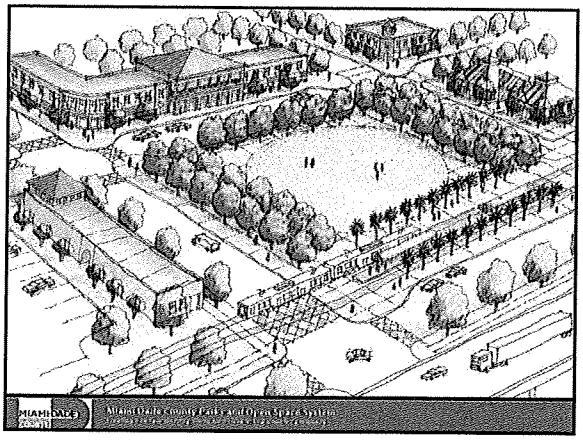
- Play organized indoor and outdoor competition sports
- Exercise, attend classes/ lectures/ social functions
- Swim recreationally or competitively in a pool
- Paddle a canoe or kayak
- Go boating
- Go to the beach

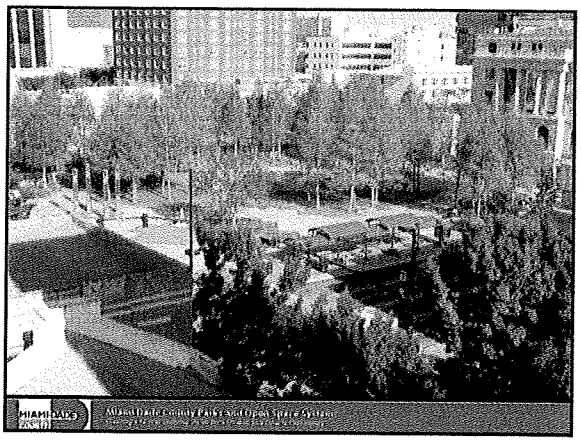

Area-Wide Parks – Sports Complexes
Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System

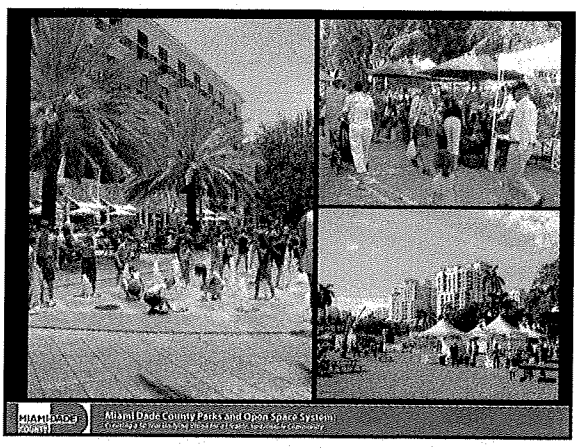
Great Public Spaces are Designed to Engage Residents...
providing diverse social, recreation and economic development opportunities.
Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System


Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System


Transit Stations
LEGEND
Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System


Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System


Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System

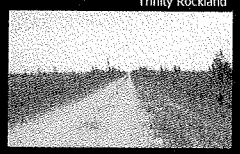


Great Natural and Cultural Areas are Planned and Managed to Balance Access and Resource Protection...

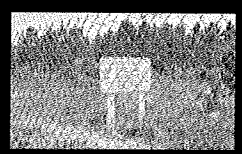
protecting and enhancing the natural and cultural heritage of the region, as well as existing biological diversity, restoration and management actions.

Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

Trinity Rockland



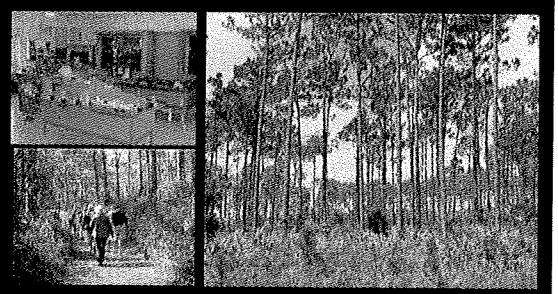
FP&L Mitigation Bank



Nixon Smiley Pinelands Preserve

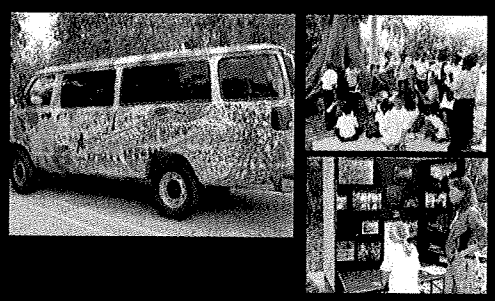
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

Balance Access, Conservation, Education

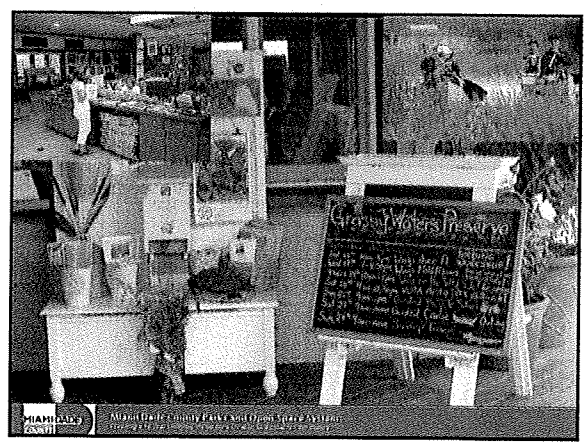


Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

Outreach: Programs, Marketing, Neighborhood Involvement, Water Conservation



Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System



Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

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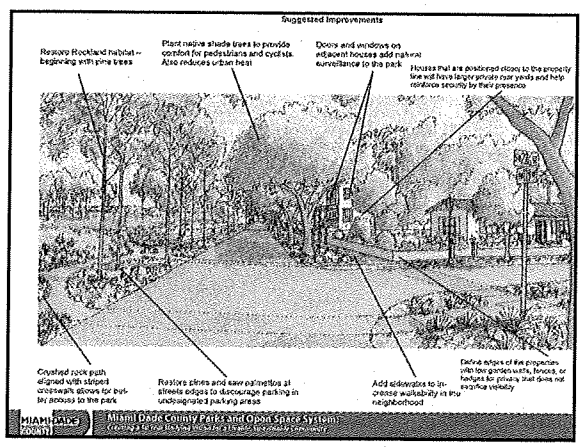
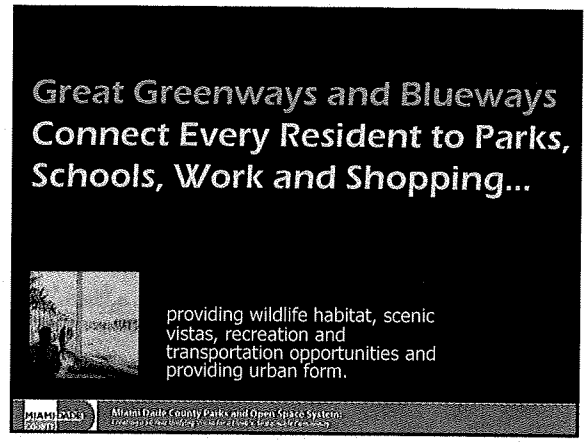
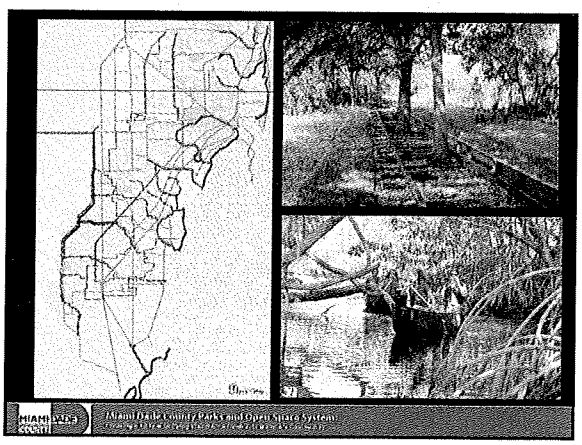
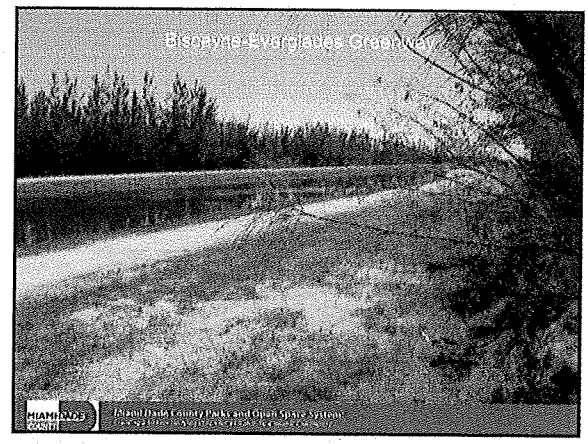
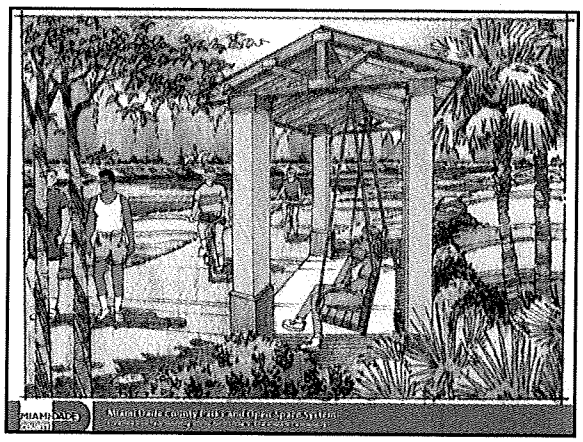
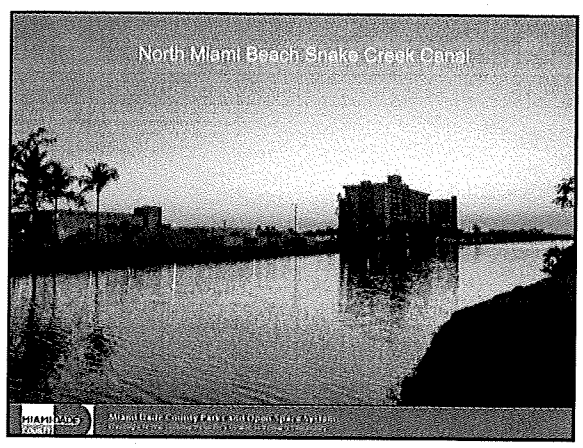

Suggested Improvements
Restore Hookland habitat – beginning with pine trees
Plant native shade trees to provide comfort for pedestrians and cyclists. Also reduces urban heat
Doors and windows on adjacent houses add natural surveillance to the park
Houses that are positioned close to the property line will have larger private rear yards and help reinforce security by their presence
Crushed rock path aligned with striped crosswalk allows for park access to the park
Restore pines and saw palmettos at streets edges to discourage parking in undesignated parking areas
Add sidewalks to increase walkability in the neighborhood
Define edges of the properties with low garden walls, fences, or hedges for privacy that does not sacrifice visibility
Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System

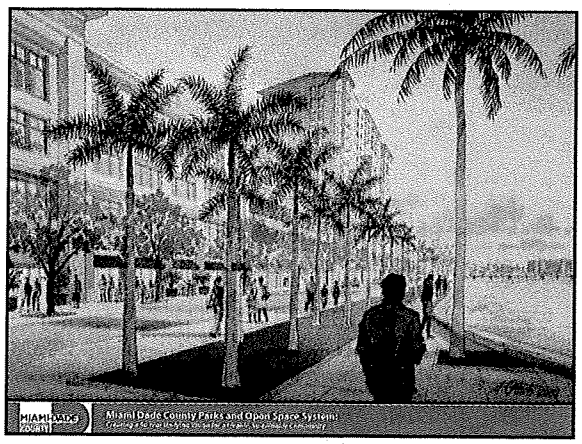

Great Greenways and Blueways
Connect Every Resident to Parks, Schools, Work and Shopping...
providing wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, recreation and transportation opportunities and providing urban form.
Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System

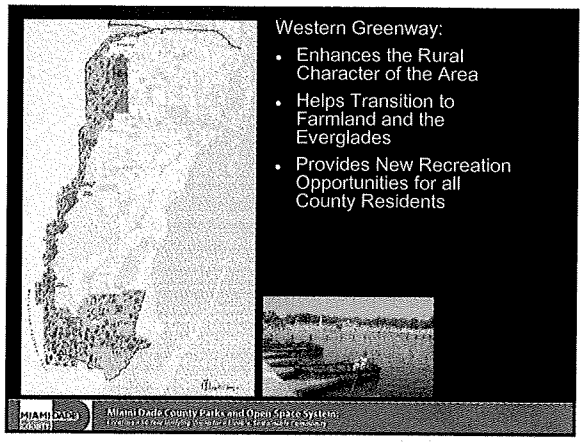

Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System

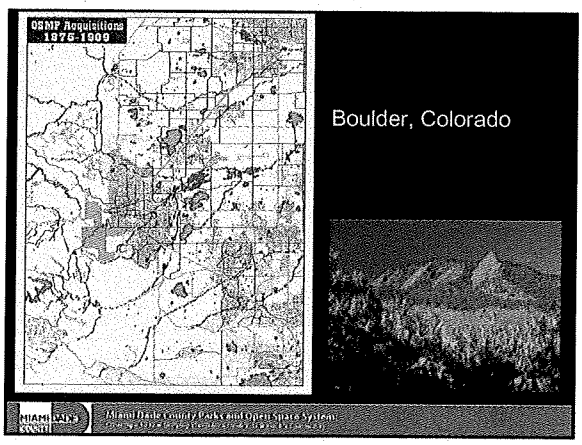

Biscayne-Everglades Greenway
Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System

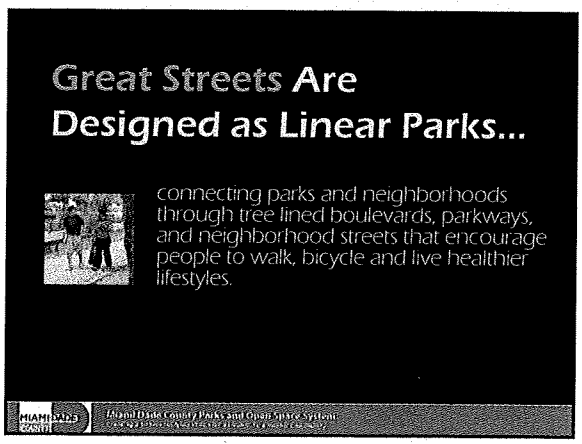

Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System

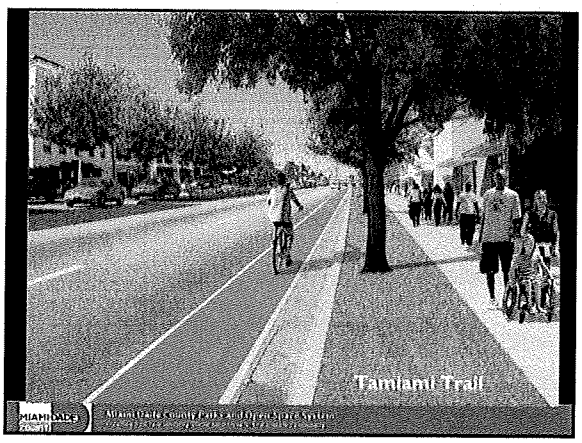

North Miami Beach Snake Creek Canal
Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System

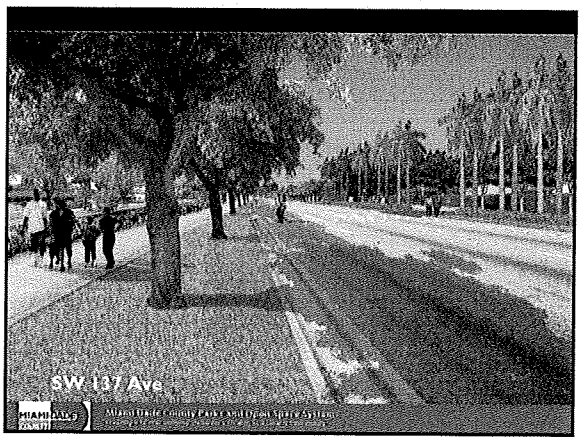

Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

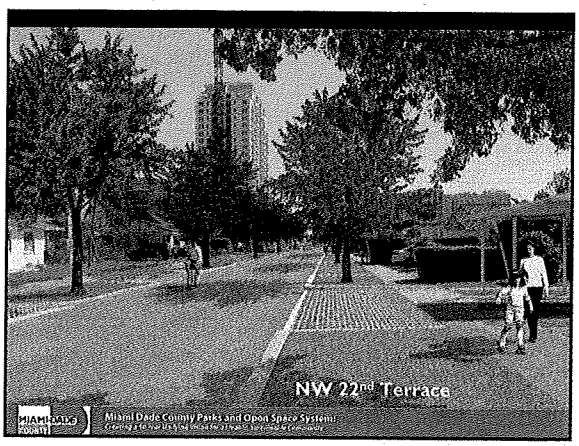

Western Greenway:
• Enhances the Rural Character of the Area
• Helps Transition to Farmland and the Everglades
• Provides New Recreation Opportunities for all County Residents
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


OSMP Acquisitions 1975-1999
Boulder, Colorado
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

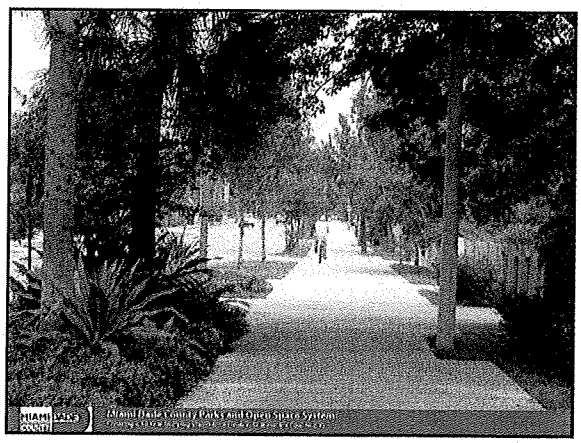

Great Streets Are Designed as Linear Parks...
connecting parks and neighborhoods through tree lined boulevards, parkways, and neighborhood streets that encourage people to walk, bicycle and live healthier lifestyles.
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

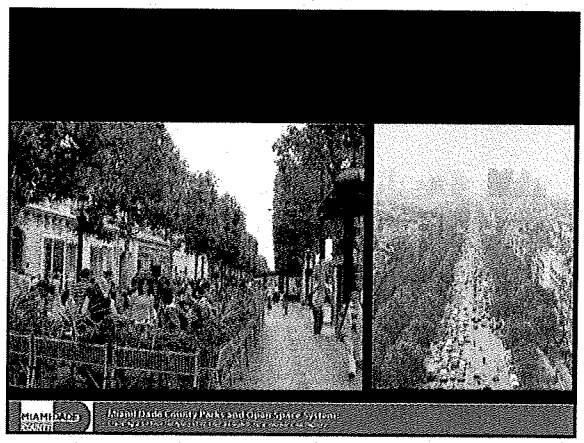

Tamiami Trail
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

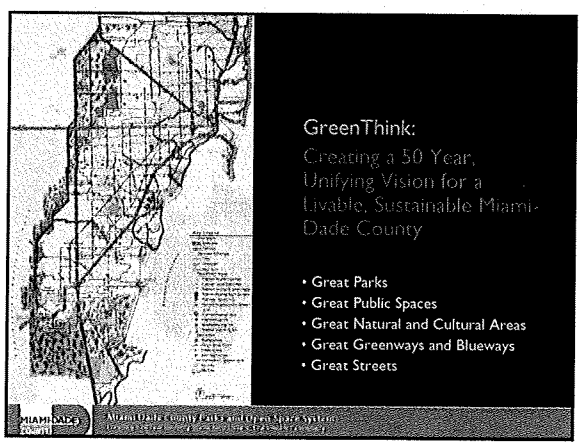

SW 137 Ave
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

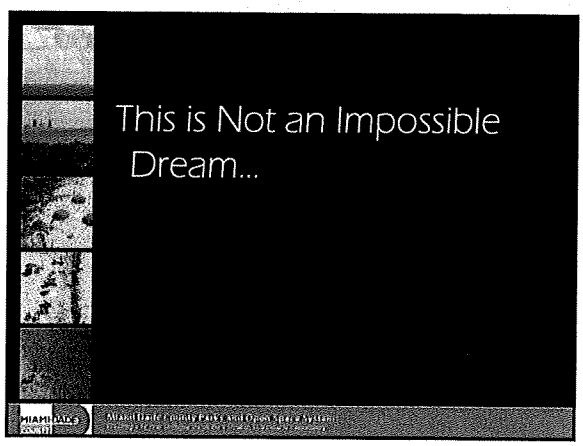

NW 22nd Terrace
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

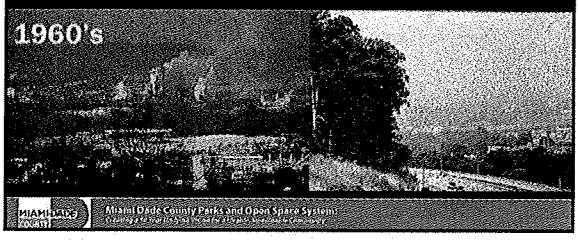

Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


GreenThink:
Creating a 50 Year, Unifying Vision for a Livable, Sustainable Miami-Dade County
• Great Parks
• Great Public Spaces
• Great Natural and Cultural Areas
• Great Greenways and Blueways
• Great Streets
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

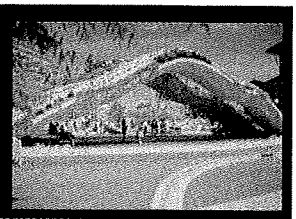

This is Not an Impossible Dream...
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

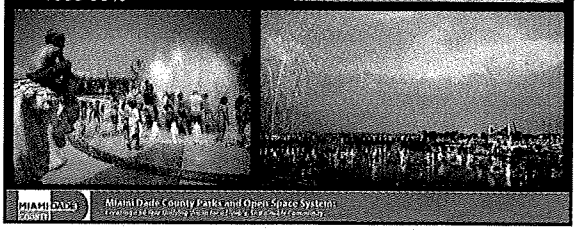
Chattanooga

- 1969 - the "invisible" city w/ no real image
- worst air pollution in the US
- deteriorating infrastructure, job layoffs, social division



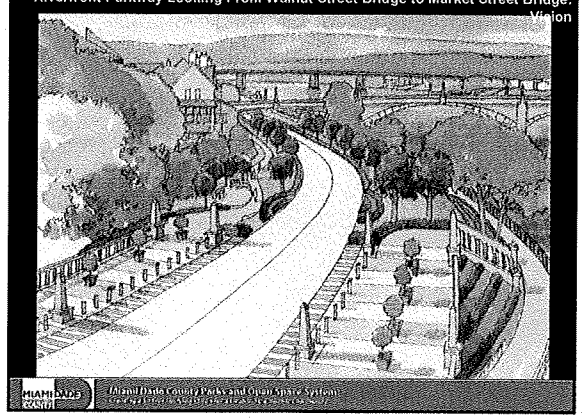
- $356 million investment
- Increase in jobs, new businesses
- Assessed property values + $11 million (127.5% increase) 1988 - 1996
- Property taxes for city and county combined rose 99%



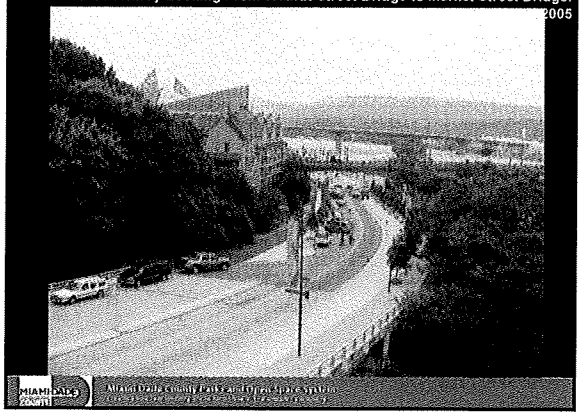


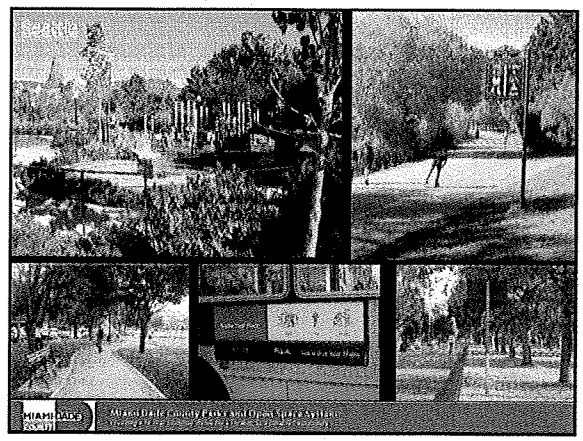
Riverfront Parkway Looking From Walnut Street Bridge to Market Street Bridge: 2000

Riverfront Parkway Looking From Walnut Street Bridge to Market Street Bridge: Vision



Riverfront Parkway Looking From Walnut Street Bridge to Market Street Bridge: 2005

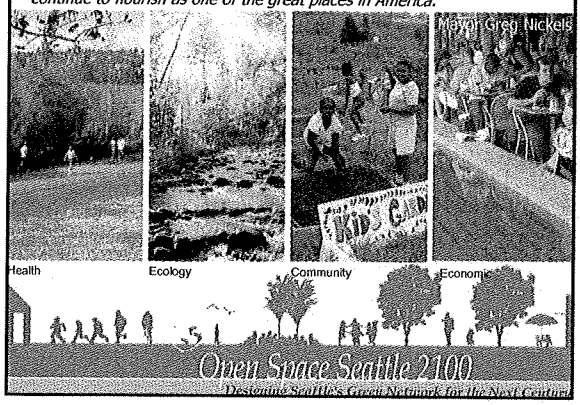


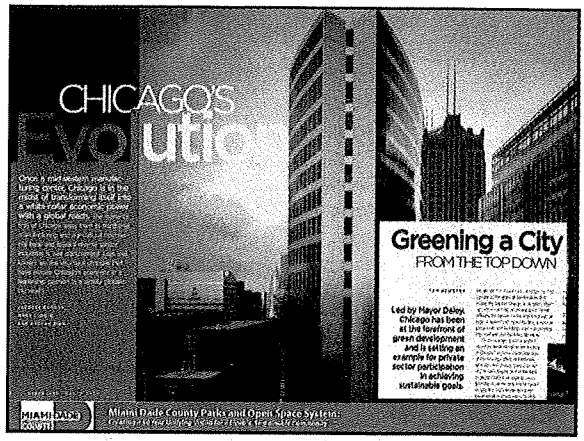


12

If we work together on these things [parks, street trees, bikeways] our city will continue to flourish as one of the great places in America.

Mayor Greg Nickels

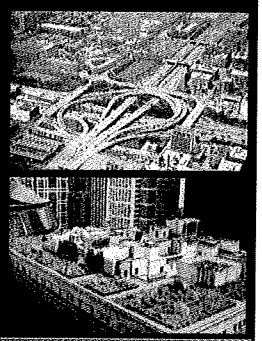




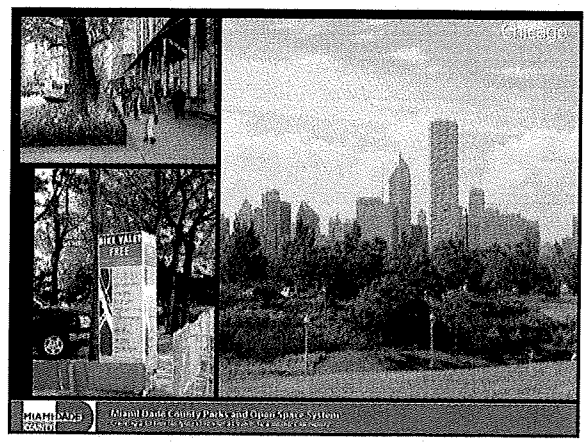
500,000 trees planted since 1989

Suddenly life springs up, and there are cafés and people where there were none before. Then it becomes, let's not just make it attractive but a healthier place. Trees reduce the heat-island effect and clean the air. Landscaping is labor intensive, so we provide a lot of jobs. That has turned into a model of economic development based on green technologies, attracting renewable-energy companies, and creating a sustainable landscaping industry.

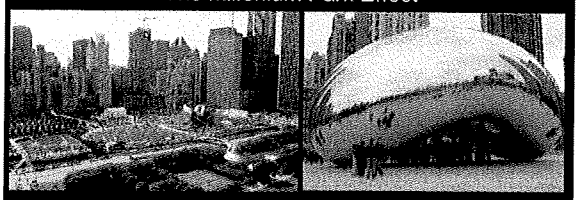
Barry Burton, Planning Dept.



Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System



The Millenium Park Effect



- $1.4 billion increase in residential development, 10,000 new housing units opening by 2015
- $100/ square foot increase in real estate values
- Increase in tourism, hotel and restaurant revenues
- $1 billion in revenue over next ten years

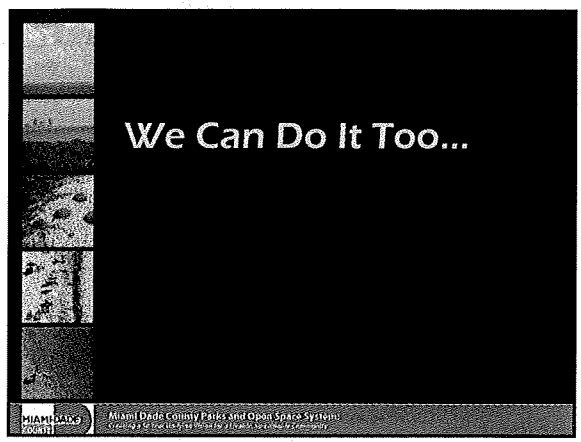
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

The Greenest City In America

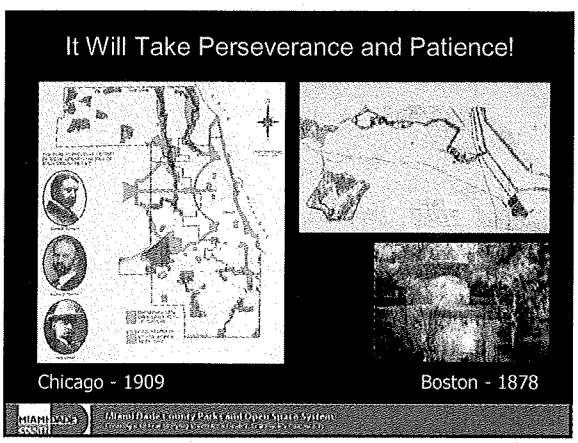
The mayor appreciates that cities are an environmentally friendly way to live. Dense urban areas served by good public transit are far preferable to far flung suburbs contributing to sprawl, traffic congestion, and the related air pollution. Mayor Daley also understands the importance of sustainability and the responsibility that he has to be a steward of the city and its resources. There is a tremendous opportunity to reconnect city dwellers with nature and with natural areas. With the right kind of programs we can beautify streets and neighborhoods, improve our air quality, and make the city more livable and attractive — the kind of place [where] you want to work and raise a family.

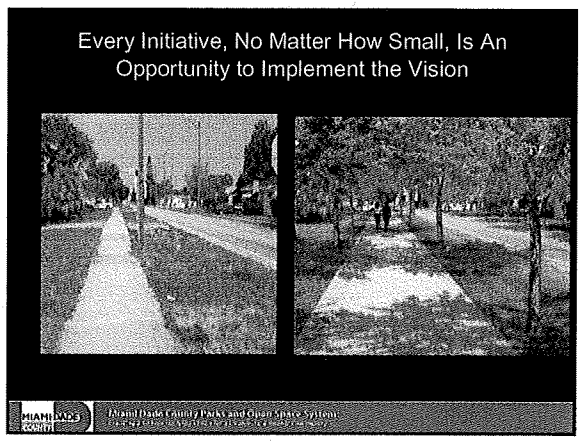
Bill Abolt, Commissioner of the Department of the Environment

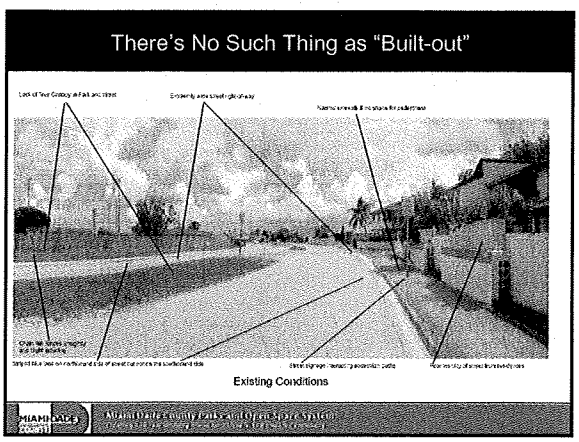
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

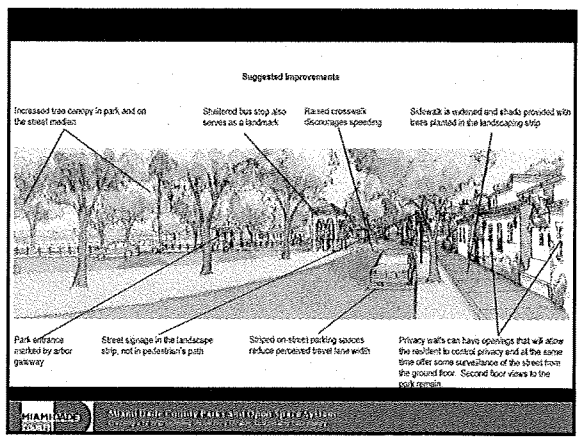

We Can Do It Too...
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

• Adopt a Compelling Vision
• Integrate into Policy and Practices
• Coordinate and Collaborate Across Departments Agencies and Jurisdictions
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


It Will Take Perseverance and Patience!
Chicago - 1909
Boston - 1878
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


Every Initiative, No Matter How Small, Is An Opportunity to Implement the Vision
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


There's No Such Thing as "Built-out"
Existing Conditions
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System


Suggested Improvements
Increased tree canopy in park and on the street median
Sheltered bus stop also serves as a landmark
Raised crosswalk discourages speeding
Sidewalk is widened and shade provided with trees planted in the landscaping strip
Park entrance marked by arbor gateway
Street signage in the landscape strip, not in pedestrian's path
Striped on-street parking spaces reduce perceived travel lane width
Privacy walls can have openings that will allow the resident to control privacy and at the same time offer some surveillance of the street from the ground floor. Second floor views to the park remain
Miami Dade County Parks and Open Space System

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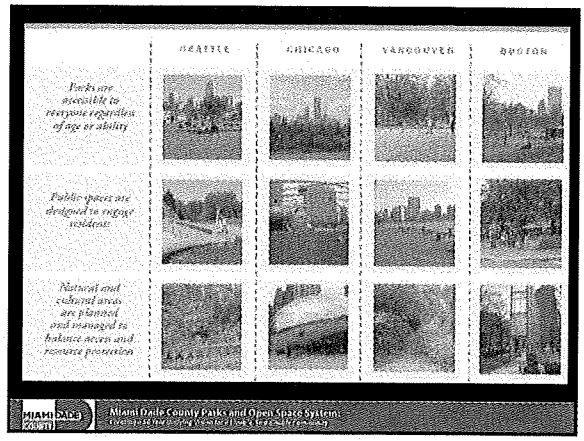
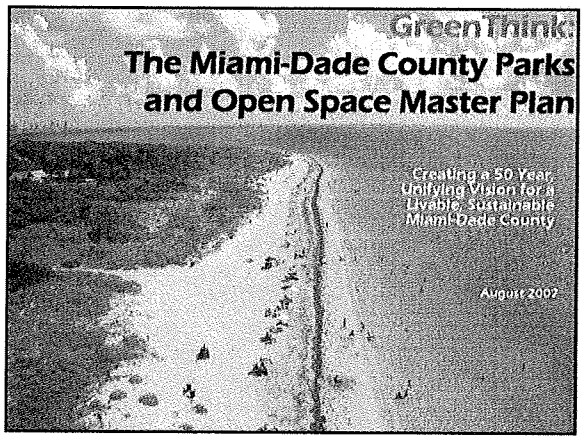
Together We Can Build our Vision of a Livable, Sustainable Miami-Dade County

Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

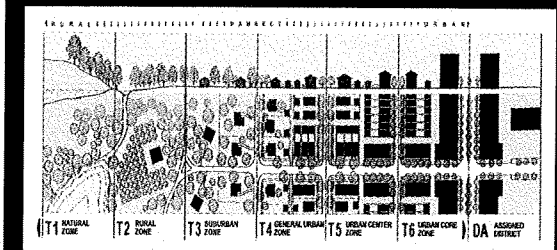


Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System:



The Transect

An ecologically based ordering system for classifying and arranging the human habitat



DPZ & Co.

Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System:

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